


MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary

FROM: William H. Cole, President and CEO 

DATE: November 20, 2017

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 17-0166
York Road Retail Business District – License Fees – Reversion to Annual Collection

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill No. 17-0166, an ordinance for the purpose of changing the semiannual license period for the York Road Retail Business District to conform with the annual collection period applicable to all other Retail Business Districts; clarifying and conforming related provisions; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the operations of Retail Business Districts.

Currently, the fees assessed to businesses located within the Retail Business District License areas are collected annually, with the exception of the York Road Retail Business District where the fees are assessed semi-annually, through the passage of Council Bill 16-0763. This semi-annual collection of the RBDL fees has had a negative budgetary effect on the York Road RBDL organization.

To streamline both the collection of such fees and distribution of the funds to the RBDL organization, BDC supports the proposed ordinance to revert back to the annual collection fee structure and respectfully requests that Bill No. 17-0166 be given favorable consideration by the City Council.

cc: Kyron Banks